No. 636,337. Patented Nov. 7, 1899.

E. J. HOWARD.

AUTOMATIC ADVERTISING DEVICE.

(Application filed Feb. 15, 1898.)

(No Model.)

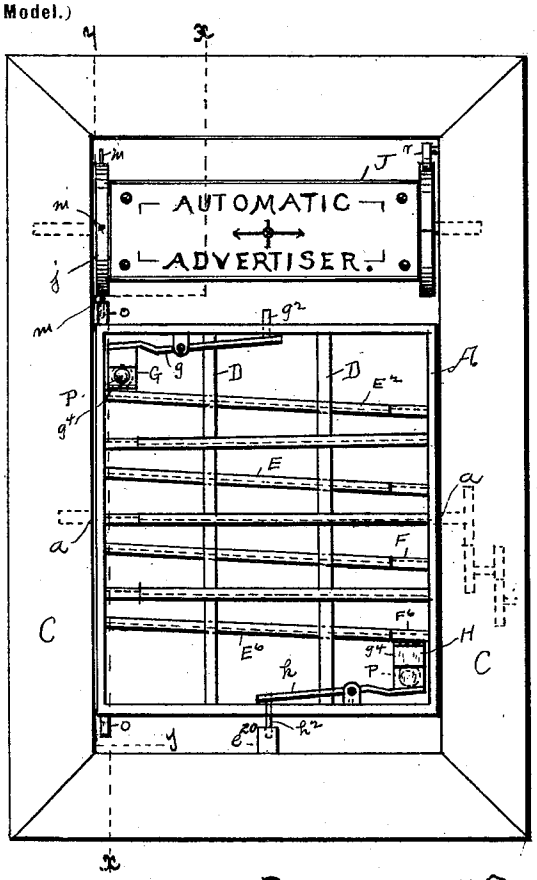


Fig. 1.

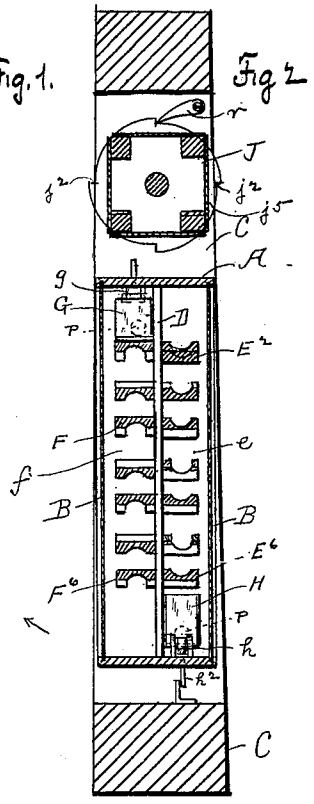


Fig 2

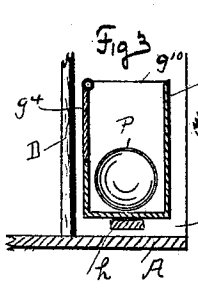


Fig 3

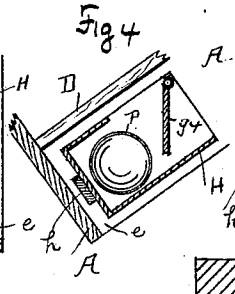


Fig 4

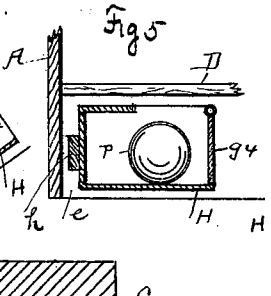


Fig 5

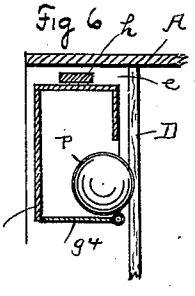


Fig 6

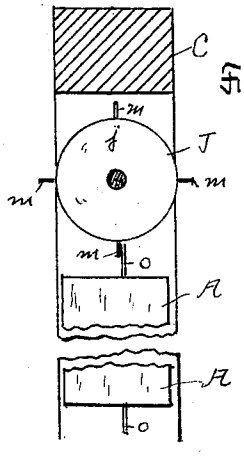


Fig. 7.

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UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

EDWARD J. HOWARD, OF NEW YORK, N. Y., ASSIGNOR TO MARY A. SULLIVAN, OF SAME PLACE.

AUTOMATIC ADVERTISING DEVICE.

SPECIFICATION forming part of Letters Patent No. 636,337, dated November 7, 1899.

Application filed February 15, 1898. Serial No. 670,344. (No model.)

To all whom it may concern:

Be it known that I, EDWARD J. HOWARD, a citizen of the United States, and a resident of New York city, in the county and State of New York, have invented a new and useful Improvement in Automatic Advertising Devices, of which the following is a specification.

My invention relates to an automatic advertising device or apparatus.

The object is to produce a machine or apparatus which will not only change at intervals the advertisement intended for observation, but present certain attractions connected with the operation of the machine that will excite the curiosity of observers to such an extent that the advertisements will not only be readily read and observed, but remembered. In this machine, however, the motive force is not constantly in action. It is released at periods by a tripping device acted upon by a ball.

The machine includes novel means for elevating the ball and in discharging the same on the respective chutes.

Referring to the drawings, Figure 1 is a front elevation of my device with the window pane or glass removed. Fig. 2 is a sectional elevation on line *x x*, Fig. 1. Figs. 3 to 6, inclusive, are views showing the position and the operation of one of the pockets for elevating and discharging the ball on the chute. Fig. 7 is a sectional view on line *y y*, Fig. 1.

Letter A represents a casing or box with sides and end pieces, as shown. The front and rear of this casing in this case are covered by a plate of glass B, held in place by suitable grooves cut in the side and end frames. The casing or box is supported in the center by the axles *a*, upon which said box revolves, and these axles are supported in the frame C, surrounding the casing or box, as shown. Within this frame is placed the mechanism for turning the casing, (see dotted lines, Fig. 1,) which can be clockwork or electricity. The casing is divided by the division-strips D, (see Fig. 2,) which support the incline chutes or ways E and F, (seven on each side,) and they are arranged, as shown in Fig. 2, for the purpose of receiving and conducting the ball P. At opposite corners of this casing and in opposite compartments *e f* are placed the pockets G H, each attached to a tripping-lever *g h*, fulcrumed to the end pieces of this casing, as shown. The outer ends of these tripping-levers have attached to them pins g^2 h^2, which are intended to engage with a stop e^{20}, secured on the end piece of the frame C. (See Fig. 2.) These pockets are made, as shown in Fig. 3, one end entirely open and one side half open, but closed by a hinged lid g^4, which assumes certain positions as the casing turns or revolves (see Figs. 3 to 6) for the purpose of holding and carrying the ball up and discharging it on the chute. Now when the ball P leaves the pocket G (see Fig. 1) it is thrown upon the chute E^2 opposite the mouth of said pocket. This chute is in compartment *e* and pocket in compartment *f*. As the ball descends the chutes E and reaches the last one, E^6, it will drop into the pocket H. Now the weight of this ball in dropping will depress that end of the tripping-lever *h* and raise the end having the pin, thereby lifting said pin sufficiently to clear the stop e^{20}. The casing is now free for the clock or electrical mechanism to turn it, which it will do in direction of arrow. As the casing turns or revolves it carries with it the pocket H, containing the ball that has dropped therein and lies as shown in Fig. 3. As the pocket ascends the lid g^4 will fall, as shown in Fig. 4, and close the opening through which the ball entered (see Fig. 5) and leave opening g^{10} open. Now when the pocket assumes the position shown in Fig. 6 (which is when the casing has completed its turn) the ball is free to roll out of opening g^{10} upon the chute.

To sustain the lid or shutter g^4 as a flooring for the ball to roll out upon when in the position shown in Fig. 6, I use any suitable stop, placed either at the outer end of the shutter or at or on the hinge or pivot-point.

Until the casing turns the chutes E are on the right-hand side of same, but when the box turns over these chutes are on the left-hand side, and vice versa. Now when the ball rolls out of pocket H, which has by the turning reached the top, it will fall upon chute F^6 and travel down the other chutes F

and drop into pocket G, which is down. The tripping-lever *g* is now acted upon and the casing free to turn, and as the said casing again turns that pocket performs a like function of holding the ball and will discharge it again on the chutes E^2. This cycle of operation will continue so long as the power employed holds out. This feature of my device presents an attraction. It not only performs a useful function, but on account of its novelty becomes a subject of curiosity, thereby attracting the attention of an observer, which fact is desirable with this class of inventions.

To utilize the momentum of the casing for a specific and useful purpose, I have placed above the casing the revolving advertising-holder J, the rims *j* of which being provided with pins *m*, which engage with the pin *o* on the casing. Now as the said casing swings around into place, as before described, the pin *o* will strike the pin *m* and revolve the holder J one-quarter turn. To prevent the holder revolving backward, I use the pawl *r*, secured on frame C, which engages with the notches j^2 in the rim j^5. (See Fig. 2.) The pin of the revolving casing or frame resting against the pin of the rim of the advertising-holder will check the same, revolving in an opposite direction when the frame is at rest. Thus by every revolution of the casing I can display an advertisement.

The glasses covering the front and rear of casing can have advertisements on them, and one of these glasses can be omitted and in place thereof a card having advertisements thereon used.

What I claim is—

1. In an advertising-machine, and in combination with the casing, the revolving frame suitably pivoted supporting a plurality of incline-chutes, arranged as shown, two pockets, attached to fulcrum tripping-arms, connected to the frame, said pockets containing openings, and a hinged lid, acting as a lid to one opening and a platform to the other, for receiving and discharging the operating-ball, and means for tripping said frame, consisting of a ball traveling down said chutes and dropping in said pocket for acting the tripping-arms as described, and means for revolving said frame, for the purpose set forth.

2. In an automatic advertising device, the receiving and discharging pockets or boxes, with a receiving-opening and discharging-opening, and a hinged lid, closing and opening said openings, as described; the tripping-levers, to which the pockets are attached, fulcrumed on the revolving chute-carrying frame, and provided with tripping-pins, acting on stop on the supporting-frame; the revolving casing supporting a plurality of chutes as shown, said casing revolving on suitable axles within the encircling frame, and means for revolving said casing, and means for automatically tripping said casing, consisting of a ball, traveling along the chutes and operating the pockets, substantially as described and for the purpose set forth.

In testimony that I claim the foregoing as my invention I have signed my name, in presence of two witnesses, this 10th day of February, 1898.

EDWARD J. HOWARD.

Witnesses:
M. A. SULLIVAN,
F. BARRETT.